

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 01022 231138Z

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 1022

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EE O 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, RP

SUBJ: MILITARY UTILITY AND POLICY VALUE OF MASTER DATA
EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS

REF: STATE 012376

1. AGREEMENT BETWEEN DOD AND GOP DEPT. OF NATIONAL
DEFENSE WAS SIGNED ON NOVEMBER 3, 1972. TO BEST OUR
KNOWLEDGE ONLY ONE TRANSACTION UNDER THE AGREEMENT HAS
BEEN MADE APPARENTLY TO PROVIDE PHILS A US ARMY JUNGLE
SURVIVAL STUDY OF JUNGLE LEECHES.

2. DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENT HAS CLEARLY HAD LITTLE OR
NO IMPACT TO DATE ON GENERAL US-RP BILATERAL RELATIONS.

3. WHILE GOP INTEREST IN TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY HAS
MOUNTED STEADILY SINCE DECEMBER, 1971 INITIATION OF AFP
SELF-RELIANCE PLAN, ACQUISITION OF TECHNICAL DATA PACKAGES
(TDP'S) HAS BEEN ENTIRELY IN CONTEXT OF FMS PROGRAM.
IT ENTIRELY POSSIBLE GOP FAILURE TO AVAIL ITSELF OF 1962
MASTER DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENT MAY REFLECT FACT THAT
PHILS HAVE FORGOTTEN IT EXISTS. IF MISSIONS ELSEWHERE
HAVE HAD PROBLEMS INVOLVING BY-PASSING OF EMBASSY BY
DOD REPS, IT PERHAPS JUST AS WELL PHILS NOT PAYING
ATTENTION TO AGREEMENT.

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PAGE 02 MANILA 01022 231138Z

4. RESPONSES FOLLOW KEYED TO PARA 2 REFTTEL:

A. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MASTER AGREEMENT (OR SUBSEQUENT DATA TRANSFER "PROJECTS" ESTABLISHED UNDER IT) AND DOD MANNING LEVELS IN YOUR COUNTRY: GIVEN LACK OF US-RP ACTIVITY UNDER AGREEMENT, IT HAS HAD NO APPARENT EFFECT ON DOD MANNING LEVELS IN PHILIPPINES. JUSMAG HAS BEEN CONDUIT THROUGH WHICH FMS REQUESTS FOR TDP'S HAVE BEEN PROCESSED.

B. EXTENT OF CHIEF OF MISSIONS INFORMATION ABOUT AND CONTROL OVER DOD-DND DISCUSSIONS OR NEGOTIATIONS: TO BEST OF EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, THERE HAVE BEEN NO SUCH TALKS/NEGOTIATIONS IN PAST FOUR OR FIVE YEARS.

C. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THESE PROJECTS AND ANY PROPOSED OR ACTUAL CO-PRODUCTION OF MATERIAL DEVELOPED WITH DATA PROVIDED UNDER DATA EXCHANGE: ONLY ONE US-RP CO-PRODUCTION AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED; NAMELY, FOR PRODUCTION OF THE M-16 RIFLE. THERE IS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THIS AGREEMENT AND THE DATA EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

D. HAS MASTER AGREEMENT TENDED TO ENCOURAGE GOP TO EXPECT TO BE PROVIDED ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY: NO.

E. HAS U.S. GOTTEN ITS MONEY'S WORTH OUT OF MASTER AGREEMENT IN TERMS OF REVERSE FLOW OF DATA OR OTHER QUID PRO QUO: THERE HAS BEEN NO REVERSE FLOW OF DATA. THE AGREEMENT HAS VIRTUALLY BEEN INACTIVE FROM BOTH SIDES' POINT OF VIEW.

F. WAYS IN WHICH FUTURE AGREEMENTS MIGHT BE BETTER WRITTEN TO AVOID POSSIBLE ADVERSE INFLUENCE ON CONDUCT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS OR IMPEDIMENTS TO EFFECTIVE MISSION MANAGEMENT: AS NOTED, EMBASSY HAS NOT HAD PROBLEMS THAT APPEAR TO HAVE DEVELOPED ELSEWHERE WITH MASTER DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS. HOWEVER, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING A REPORT OF SUCH DIFFICULTIES.
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